



**Bureau of Land Management
Lake Havasu Field Office
2610 Sweetwater Avenue
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406**



Categorical Exclusion Assignment, Review and Approval			NEPA Number:		CX-AZ-330-5-033
			Date:		August 15, 2005
			Sub-activity:		1430 ER
			Case/Project No:		AZA 027417
Name of Project:		MEC Amendment #2		Type:	Powerline ROW
Location (legal description)		T. 20 N.,	R. 22 W.,	Sec. 30, Lots 12, 13; NE1/4NE1/4.	

Applicant (s): Mohave Electric Cooperative Inc. (MEC), P.O. Box 1045, Bullhead City, AZ 86430

Description of Proposed Action:

Mohave Electric Cooperative (MEC) Inc. submitted an application on February 3, 2005, to amend Right-of-Way (ROW) AZA 027417. MEC requested to extend a 14.4 kv underground powerline to provide service to the new baseball fields, located at the Bullhead City's Rotary Park, Recreational and Public Purposes (R&PP) lease #AZA 17451, in Bullhead City, AZ. MEC installed the 14.4 kv underground powerline, 66 feet in length and 10 feet in width, and a total 0.015 of an acre. The term will remain the same as the original expiration date of February 3, 2013.

Categorical Exclusion Reference, 516 DM, 6. Appendix 5.4, E. Realty:		(XX)	(BLM Categorical Exclusion List)
(17) Grant of a short rights-of-way for utility service or terminal access roads to an individual residence, outbuilding, or water well.			
Department of the Interior 516 DM 2, Appendix 2 provides for a review of the following categorical exclusion criteria to determine if exceptions apply to this project:			Yes No
2.1	<i>Have significant adverse effects on public health or safety.</i>		X
2.2	<i>Have adverse effects on such unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources, park, recreation or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, sole or principal drinking water aquifers, prime farmlands, wetlands, floodplains, or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the Department's National Register of Natural Landmarks.</i>		X
2.3	<i>Have highly controversial environmental effects.</i>		X
2.4	<i>Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.</i>		X
2.5	<i>Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.</i>		X
2.6	<i>Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.</i>		X
2.7	<i>Have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.</i>		X
2.8.	<i>Have adverse effects on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species.</i>		X
2.9.	<i>Require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act.</i>		X
2.10	<i>Threaten to violate a Federal, State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.</i>		X
<p><u>The proposed project conforms to the following BLM Land Use Plan:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yuma District RMP approved in 1986 as amended 			
<p><u>Describe site specific consultation and coordination or affected interests:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 			

Technical Review: Critical Elements	May Be Affected		If affected, mitigations assigned	Signature Name/Title	Date
	Yes	No			
Air Quality					
				<i>Specialist</i>	
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern					
				<i>Jill Miller-Allert</i>	
Cultural Resources/ Paleontological Resources					
				<i>Sarah C Murray</i>	
Environmental Justice					
				<i>Specialist</i>	
Farm Lands (Prime or Unique)					
				<i>Specialist</i>	
Floodplain					
				<i>Specialist</i>	
Native American Religious Concerns					
				<i>Sarah C Murray</i>	
Threatened or Endangered Species					
				<i>Mark Howell</i>	
Wastes, Hazardous or Solid					
				<i>Specialist</i>	
Water Quality, Drinking or Ground					
				<i>Cory Bodman</i>	
Wetlands/Riparian Zones					
				<i>Mark Howell</i>	
Wild and Scenic Rivers					
				<i>Jill Miller-Allert</i>	
Wilderness					
				<i>Jill Miller-Allert</i>	
Invasive & Non Native Weeds					
				<i>Mark Howell</i>	
Lands/Realty					
				<i>Maria Rosalez</i>	
Law Enforcement					
				<i>Bryan Pittman</i>	
Operations/Engineering Review					
				<i>Mike Henderson</i>	
Recreation					
				<i>Myron McCov</i>	
Visual Resources Management					
				<i>Myron McCov</i>	
Soils/Minerals					
				<i>Amanda Dodson</i>	
Wild Horses/ Burros					
				<i>Specialist</i>	
Range					
				<i>Specialist</i>	
Health & Safety					
				<i>Bill Parrr</i>	

Review: *We have determined that the proposal is in accordance with the categorical exclusion criteria and that it would not involve any significant environmental effects. Therefore, it is categorically excluded from further environmental review.*

SIGNATURES:

Prepared By:		Date:	
	Project Lead		
Reviewed By:		Date:	
	P&EC		
Reviewed By:		Date:	
	Supervisor		

Decision: *Bureau of Land Management, Lake Havasu Field Office, has determined that this decision or action conforms to the land use plan, that none of the 10 exceptions apply, and that therefore neither an EA nor EIS is needed, The decision or action will be implemented subject to the stipulations attached to the authorizing document.*

Approved By:		Date:	
	Field Manager, Lake Havasu Field Office		

Attachments:

1. Stipulations
2. Map

Compliance and assignment of responsibility (Program or Employee):

- Lands & Customer Service

Monitoring and assignment of responsibility: (Program or Employee):

- Lands & Customer Service

Stipulations – AZA 027417

1. The holder shall conduct all activities associated with the construction, operation, maintenance and termination of the right-of-way (ROW) within the authorized limits of the right-of-way.
2. The holder shall maintain the facilities constructed on the lands in a satisfactory condition.
3. The holder will remove trash, rubbish, and other construction debris shall be removed from the site and disposed of at a designated sanitary landfill, and the grounds shall be maintained in a neat and orderly manner at all times.
4. The holder will avoid occurrence of non-native/invasive species, all construction equipment brought into the area from another should be carefully washed before being used on site.
5. The holder will meet Federal, State and local emissions standards for air quality.
6. Any cultural (historic/prehistoric site or object) and/or paleontological resource (fossil remains of plants or animals) discovered during the proposed action shall immediately be reported to the authorized officer. All operations in the immediate area of the discovery shall be suspended until written authorization to proceed is issued. An evaluation of the discovery shall be made by a qualified archaeologist or paleontologist to determine appropriate actions to prevent the loss of significant cultural or scientifically important paleontological values.
7. Care shall be taken not to disturb or destroy Desert Tortoises or their burrows. Handling, collecting, damaging, or destroying Desert Tortoises is prohibited by Arizona State Law. Any sightings of Desert Tortoise should be immediately reported to the Lake Havasu Field Office, Wildlife Biologist at (928) 505 1200.
8. If a Desert Tortoise is endangered by any activity, that activity should cease until the Desert Tortoise moves out of harm's way on its own accord. A certified/qualified handler must only handle a Desert Tortoise that needs to be handled to prevent injury or death.
9. State protected plant species (e.g. all cactus, ocotillo, palo verde, mesquite trees, ironwood, and smoketree) shall be avoided if possible. The holder shall report all State protected species destroyed or damaged to the Lake Havasu Field Office Wildlife Biologist at (928) 505 1200.
10. All migratory birds shall be observed from a distance. Any injured wildlife shall be reported to the local humane society, (928) 855 7479.